

### Amendments to the Claims:

*This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:*

1.-10. (Cancelled)

11. (New) A process for preparing a coating on a substrate, comprising applying a coating formulation (B) which is curable to a coating having a pencil hardness according to ISO 15184 of at least HB, the coating formulation comprising at least one prepolymer (A) which bears alkoxy silane functionalities of the formula (6).



in which

R each, independently, is hydrogen, or an alkyl, cycloalkyl or aryl radical having 1 to 6 carbon atoms, the carbon chain being uninterrupted or interrupted by non-adjacent oxygen, sulfur or NR'' groups,

R' each, independently, is an alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl or arylalkyl radical having 1 to 12 carbon atoms, the carbon chain being uninterrupted or interrupted by nonadjacent oxygen, sulfur or NR'' groups,

X is oxygen, sulfur or a group of the formula (20)



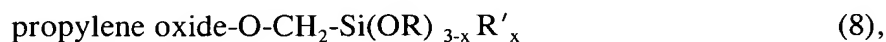
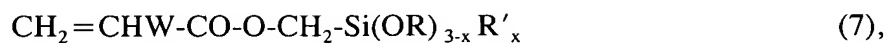
wherein

R'' each, independently, is hydrogen, an alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, aminoalkyl or aspartate ester radical, and

x is 0 or 1.

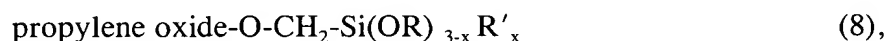
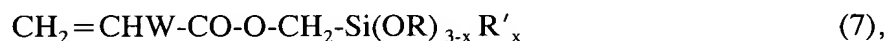
12. (New) The process of claim 11, wherein the group R is a methyl or ethyl radical.

13. (New) The process of claim 11, wherein the silane-functional prepolymers (A) are prepared using at least one silane of the formulae (7) and (8)



where W is a  $\text{CH}_3$  group or hydrogen.

14. (New) The process of claim 12, wherein the silane-functional prepolymers (A) are prepared using at least one silane of the formulae (7) and (8)



where W is a  $\text{CH}_3$  group or hydrogen.

15. (New) The process of claim 11, wherein the silane-functional prepolymers (A) are prepared using silanes (A1) of the general formula (9)



16. (New) The process of claim 12, wherein the silane-functional prepolymers (A) are prepared using silanes (A1) of the general formula (9)



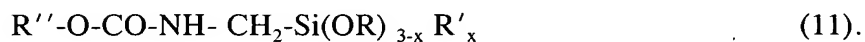
17. (New) The process of claim 11, wherein the coating formulation (B) further comprises at least one catalyst (K) which accelerates the curing of the prepolymer(s) (A).

18. (New) The process of claim 12, wherein the coating formulation (B) further comprises at least one catalyst (K) which accelerates the curing of the prepolymer(s) (A).

19. (New) The process of claim 17, wherein at least one catalyst (K) is selected from the group consisting of tin catalysts and tertiary amines and mixtures.

20. (New) The process of claim 11, wherein the coating formulation (B) further comprises at least one reactive diluent which is a low molecular weight compound having a molecular weight such that the viscosity is not more than 5 Pas at 20°C and which possesses reactive alkoxysilyl groups which are incorporated into a three-dimensional network as the coating cures.

21. (New) The process of claim 20, wherein at least one reactive diluent is selected from the group consisting of alkyltrimethoxysilanes, alkyltriethoxysilanes, vinyltrimethoxysilane, vinyltriethoxysilane, phenyltrimethoxysilane, phenyltriethoxysilane, tetraethoxysilane, partial hydrolysates of these compounds, and compounds of the formulae (10) and (11)



22. (New) The process of claim 11, wherein the coating formulations (B) further comprise at least one binder (D) bearing no alkoxysilane functionalities of the general formula (6).

23. (New) The process of claim 11, wherein the coating formulation (B) is solvent-free.

24. (New) The process of claim 11, wherein R is ethyl.